

BLUE-GRASS BLADE.

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Charles L. Moore
Editor

The Status of the Alliance People More Favorable to Prohibition.

As might reasonably have been expected from the beginning, the Farmer's Alliance has split. There is every reason to suppose now that one-half of it will go to the Prohibitionists, and the other will simply be an annex to Democracy, or a subdivision of Democracy that wants special legislation for the farmers.

These Alliance people who endorse the resolutions lately passed at Ocala, Florida, form one section and those who combined with the Prohibitionists to elect Kem and Hefverson to Congress from the West lately, form the other party.

The cause of the rupture was the decision of the Ocala party that no negro could be a member of the Alliance. The call of the other party for a meeting at Chicago, on the other hand invited the Colored Farmer's Alliance to meet with them.

Of course the discrimination against the negro as a race was unjust. To discriminate against the uneducated, regardless of race, is right, and a charity to the negro to induce him to educate himself.

The National Prohibition platform asks an educational qualification for female votes. It should have demanded it for both sexes.

Prohibitionists could not sympathize with any organization that would refuse fellowship to such a man as our "Black Knight," Hector.

I talked with George Clark a few days since, the "George Harlan" in "Uncle Tom's Cabin," the man who told the story of "Uncle Tom" to Mrs. Stowe. He is a good Prohibitionist.

I talked a few days since with a mulatto, reputed to be the son of one of the most prominent Presbyterian clergymen of this State. He was a Prohibitionist, and his tongue indicated the probable correctness of his distinguished clerical descent.

I could not consent to endorse any organization that would debar such men because they are not white.

The Western body of the National Farmers Alliance has endorsed Prohibition and the indications are that they will fuse with the Prohibitionists.

Such labor leaders as Powderly, Beaumont and Travellick are pronounced for Prohibition, and are in full sympathy with the Western body of the Alliance men.

It seems to me that a fusion of this Western division and Powderly's people and the Prohibitionists, is almost a foregone conclusion. The fusion will not require the Prohibitionists to moderate in the least, their position on the liquor traffic, but may demand of them some sympathy with some of the more conservative principles of the Alliance people.

Though we have never urged any of these, our National platform will allow this.

I have always doubted the expediency of but two planks in our platform; one is prohibition of the liquor traffic and the other is woman suffrage.

I object to any class legislation for farmers or anybody else.

I am opposed to dictating rates to railroads because it is unjust. The railroads are the private property of those who own them, and I think they have the right to vary the fare from New York to Chicago from \$13 to \$1, as the New York Voice complains that they have done; and on the same principle they have the right to charge \$100 for that fare or to take people for nothing.

Over the turnpikes of our country the law should watch with a jealous eye, and dictate the terms upon which they shall conduct their business, because the turnpike companies take the roads that originally belonged to the public and compel the people to pay for traveling over them in their improved condition, while the right of free locomotion was

one of the inalienable rights of freemen.

Railroads are the original creation of those who build them. No reasonable man would deny the right of a railroad company to tear up its road or to cease to operate it all if it thought best to do so, without any apology to anybody for its course. If it would have the right to do this it would, of course, have a right to adopt any policy in its own management that would be deleterious to itself or to anybody else, just as a man would have a right to charge an inordinate rent for his house or to destroy it entirely if he preferred.

Some such minor objection some of us may have to swallow in a coalition with the Alliance men, but if they accept our view of Prohibition without any compromise we may afford to make some concession upon extraneous issues on the broad principle that we will secure the greatest good to the greatest number by securing Prohibition.

The question naturally arises with which side in the division will the Kentucky Alliance people go?

Race prejudice does not exist in politics in Kentucky, while the interests of our people are equally divided between the North and the South and the prejudices of our people are for the South.

There will therefore probably be a division among the Alliance people of Kentucky, and a part of them will coalesce with the Prohibitionists upon the same terms that the Western Alliance people do.

In the coalition the Prohibition party will take precedence upon the ground of its superior age and of its thorough organization.

The rock upon which there is the greatest danger that we will break will be the naming of the contested party. The New York Voice in alluding to this says of the name "it is easily changed." I think it of the most radical importance that we cling to the name. We cannot afford to compromise our fundamental principle as long as we maintain that name, and we may do it under any other name.

In all the utterances of the New York Voice that is the first sentiment in it to which I had to dissent.

We must hold to the name Prohibition until the thing that we want to prohibit has been most effectually prohibited, and then it will sweetly fall into innocuous desuetude for want of oil to feed the flame, just as the name Abolition went out when the thing it opposed was abolished.

For myself, even after that, I must admit a sort of sentimental preference for the old name, but after that, and not before, I am willing to hear argument on the advisability of changing the name.

Two hundred thousand of the finest women in America are pledged to the support of Prohibition, and they are the "power behind the throne" in all cultured society.

The Prohibition cause has already existed twice as long as any other third party except Abolition ever did, and it has done this with no more approach to schism or rupture than the difference of opinion about Woman Suffrage and that has simply been the occasion of putting a pleasant seasoning of Attie salt with our discussions. With the press of both the old parties against it, and with no political machinery of its own, and without a single act inconsistent with the character of the highest style of Christian gentlemen, it has grown from 9,678 in 1880, to 249,945 that were counted in for Clinton B. Fisk in 1888, even after the count was misrepresented by Democrats and Republicans all over the United States as we know it to have been here in Lexington.

We have simply to stand firm on our position and the Northern wing of the Alliance will come to us, and the Southern wing will go back to its allegiance to Democracy.

The Northern wing coming to us will weaken Republicanism, while the Southern wing going to Democracy will strengthen Democracy; then reinforced Democracy will crush decimated Republicanism, and then crushed Republicanism will come to Prohibition; then the combine of Republicanism, Western Alliance, Powderly people and Prohibitionists, with Prohibition in the lead will crush Democracy, and then the angels will string up their harps and learn some new songs for the Millennium.

Political Heresy in The New York Voice.

In the New York Voice of January 22 is an editorial under the heading "Shall we have a Union of Forces," that has in it the first inking of political heresy that I have ever seen in that paper.

It is right in the line of thought in which the Prohibition party is most likely to get stranded.

I think the Voice is, without exception, the grandest newspaper in the world, and I think that this is the sentiment of almost every Prohibitionist. Its utterances have been so universally trustworthy that the danger of accepting its views without critical examination we are liable to swallow any error that it almost certainly must make sometime, just like a trout takes down a piece of red flannel because he does not stop to examine.

The Northern Alliance people are making some tempting baits for us to bite at, and the Voice is anxious to get in with them, and so am I. They have gotten just as close up to us as they can get without coming into the true faith, and they have drawn a line on the ground and said, "Now we like you and, we want to help you, and we want you to help us, and if you will just step across that line we will all be together."

That's exactly what the Devil said to Jesus in the "temptation." They were both quoting scripture, and they understood it just alike, and the Devil quoted it just as accurately as Jesus did, and then the Devil said "we are so nearly together in our understanding of these things, that inasmuch as I am on the popular side, and you are under a cloud, and you don't seem to have very many friends among the influ-

ential people, if you will just make the least concession we will have fine sailing together."

But the Devil didn't fool him, and nearly two thousand years afterward we are glad that he didn't. I am satisfied that Prohibition will come, and I am not so anxious to rush it through by a compromise as I am to have it so complete and uncompromised that when we do get it, there will be people who, in two thousand years from now, will be glad that we stuck it out.

Mahomet is my model Prohibitionist. Twelve hundred years ago he instituted Prohibition among his people. They may have faults, but to eat hog meat or drink liquor are two things that you cannot get them to do to this day; and in the wars of the Crusades his followers were just as far above the ale brewing, wine bibbing European Christians as the Greeks at Platea, Salamis and Thermopylae, or the followers of William Tell or Kosciusko or of Washington at Valley Forge and Yorktown, were grander than the Yankees that murdered the Indian women the other day.

The Voice alludes to "Prohibitionists both in and out of the Prohibition party."

I thought we had been trying to teach the people all the time that there could not be a Prohibitionist out of the Prohibition party any more than there could be a Democrat out of the Democratic party or a Republican out of the Republican party.

If we could not find a Democrat in the Republican party, I can't understand how we could find a Republican in the Prohibition party, or a Prohibitionist in the Republican party or the Alliance party.

This very thing of allowing some good and intelligent people who vote with other parties to flatter themselves that they are good Prohibitionists because they do not drink, and hope the saloons will be put down is the hardest thing we have to contend with here in Lexington.

A few days since a valuable citizen here in Lexington told me that he was just as good a Prohibitionist as I was.

never drank anything and used his influence against it, but voted with the Democrats.

That man so far from being a Prohibitionist is a worse enemy of Prohibition than any saloon keeper in the city, and without the support of that kind of men I could destroy the whole saloon business of Kentucky by myself.

While this position is highly creditable to the generous hearts of the Editors of the Voice, as a political policy it will not do.

Just as certain as any moral demonstration can be made, we are absolutely right in our proposition to annihilate the liquor traffic as utterly and completely as American slavery has been; and the least concession or compromise of that position will be exaggerated by our enemies and construed into an abandonment of our purpose.

This is our great and permanent purpose, but only the secondary and subsidiary purpose of any other political party. If therefore we pool our forces with them there is of necessity some deterioration of the importance of our issue, and we will just as soon put down the liquor traffic as the "Missouri Compromise" would have put down the slave traffic.

All the people in America who really and conscientiously want to put down this traffic will naturally gravitate to us, and we must stand still and let them gravitate. "Stand still and see the salvation of the Lord," and cold water will down our enemies as it did in the days of Moses.

In the same spirit of conciliation, the Voice says to a man who objects to the name Prohibition, "It is easily changed."

To change the name, and allow that a man can be a member of our party while voting with some other party simply means annihilation of Prohibition, and the Blade and I now announce that under no circumstances are we going to concede this.

If I can understand the language of the Voice, I believe the Kentucky Prohibitionists will almost to a man see it the same way.

If I am wrong in my understanding of this editorial I want the Voice to say so, and if I am right in my interpretation of it I want the Voice to reconsider its position and abandon it if it conscientiously can.

If it was any other Prohibition paper in the world we would not regard it as so important, but the Voice is the National organ, and it must voice the sentiments of our people.

If I know the mind of Kentucky Prohibitionists we want to be designated as Prohibitionists. We expect others to object to our name just as they do to our principles, but we do not care.

We do not know anything of any such thing as "a Prohibitionist out of the party." We have no test of fellowship except that a man votes with the party and that makes him in the party.

He may get drunk every day and twice on Sunday and talk for the Democrats all the time, but if he always votes for Prohibition he is a true blue Prohibitionist.

Suits Him to a "T"

January 28, 1891.

C. C. Moore, Lexington, Ky.
DEAR BROTHER—The Blade has been coming to me very regular. If there is a paper that I appreciate, it is the Blade. I read the Voice and Southern Journal, but the way the Blade cuts suits me to a "T." Give it to me, Brother Charles; and if they do not like the way you talk, let them come out and be men.

Am not prepared to send you my subscription now, but will do so in the near future. Send sample copies of the Blade to the following names: Le Grand Hawkins, W. E. Gill, W. E. Brown, Salvisa, Ky.

Respectfully,
J. ROBERT PRESTON,
Salvisa, Ky.

The Article About Rev. Sweeney.

My remarks in my last issue about Rev. Sweeney have caused considerable sensation. As to their justice and propriety I must leave my readers to decide, though I have reason to believe that in many instances it will be objected to.

The enormity that the Prohibition party is opposing is stupendous, and is pervading everything from the capitol at Washington down to the magistrate's office. I stand almost alone in this State in my efforts in journalism to oppose it.

I am limited in my means of publication, and have not at my command long daily columns with which to meet the apologies for the liquor crime that come from every quarter of the State.

I am driven, in defense of my cause, to put into the most condensed form my rejoinders to these apologists.

Many of them are far more trenchant in the handling of their pens in the discussion of theories and political abstractions than I am. But when we come to hard pan facts about the horrors of the liquor iniquity I have the advantage of them.

These are all the more striking and startling when they invade the homes of those we know.

I know that I am right in my desire to crush this iniquity, and I know that every intelligent man is wrong who fails to proclaim in unmistakable language his opposition to it, and as a defender of that which is just and right, though I may be honestly mistaken in my view, it seems to me that all opportunity must be made tributary to this great end.

This is written after the article headed "The Outlook for a State Organ" is partly in type, and it may be that the whole matter has occurred opportunely for the good of the Prohibition party.

It may, by many, be regarded as an instance of imperfection that would unfit me for the editorship of a State organ. This is an important thing to be considered if my name is to be used in that connection.

Probably I might be more conservative as an employed editor of a stock company, but this is not a thing about which I can speak with assurance.

I have been raised on a farm and am familiar with the peculiarities of farm life. When I look at a thing that presents to me all the evidences of being a spade I am mighty apt to call it a spade.

No personal friendship or sympathy for me must be allowed to handicap the cause.

Journalistic Courtesy.

It is an instance of generosity that I am glad to note, that the Transcript and Leader, after the tart reflections that have passed between me and them, were readily willing to publish my communication to assist me when I had fallen into an error about the Green and Long affair.

I can't say that I hope they may get into trouble so that I may help them out, but if, with their more conservative policies, they should ever make a "bad break," I hope they will commend me.

Daughters College, New Term.

Teachers that were compelled to ask for a term of rest last fall, have returned and resumed their old places at the college. A faculty of eight teachers are now present and busy at work, all of whom were educated at the college. Mrs. May Poter has charge of the Vocal Music class and is giving perfect satisfaction.—Harrodsburg Democrat.

The Queen City Likes The Blade.

CINCINNATI, January 27, 1891.

C. C. Moore, Esq.

DEAR SIR—Enclosed find my check for \$2 to pay one year's subscription to the Blade. So far I like the cut of your jib. There is nothing like being loyal to the truth and it must sooner or later win the day. Yours for the cause, sink or swim, J. R. MARTIN.

Cause and Effect.

In Lynn, Mass., the city authorities have granted eight additional licenses because the increase of population permitted it. At the same meeting the overseers of the poor reported their expenses for the quarter to have been nearly \$8,000. No one seems to have seen the relation between the two transactions, but none are so blind as those who will not see.

Alcohol and Disease.

Dr. Andrew Clark makes the astounding statement that in the hospitals with which he is connected 70 per cent. of the patients are sick from the use of alcohol alone, and Dr. Starlin tells us that he has observed that over three-quarters of all skin diseases are caused by intoxicating drinks.

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I take all impressions, and do all work, myself, thus avoiding all risk. My charges will be as light as I can afford to make them. Mouths differ more than do faces—no two being alike, therefore, no fixed price can be given, (until after an examination).

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